

I think there are two two-room schools left in Wayne County. My daughter Eunice (b. 07-11-1927; married on 10-01-1949 in Clinton Center Baptist Church to Dwight Franklin Hauenstein, who was born 07-17-1922) teaches third and fourth grades in the Aldenville Elementary School; another teacher has the first and second grades in that school.

The one-room school is no more. With its passing, a vacant spot has been left in the community.

Verna A. (Curtis) Varcoe

#### NOTES by S. R. Powell

1. The Curtis Valley School is located in Clinton Township, Wayne County. Its exact location is given on the map that is reproduced on page three in Volume I, Number 1 of NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA. On that map, the Curtis Valley School is labeled "Curtis School No. 4."
2. The title page of the Henry Banning Curtis Class Record Book, dated September 1866, bears the following information: "CLASS-BOOK, FOR SABBATH-SCHOOL TEACHERS' MINUTES. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 530 Arch Street. Printed on the cover of the 1905-1906 Verna A. (Curtis) Varcoe report card is the following: "SCHOLARS MONTHLY REPORTS"; this report card was published by "H. M. Weigel, Publisher, Harrisburg, PA."; VACV's 1906-1907 report card is identical to her 1905-1906 card. The 1906 Souvenir Booklet for the Curtis Valley Public School was published by "W. E. Seibert, Pub., New Phila. Ohio." Printed on the cover of VACV's third grade report card is the following: "TEACHER'S MONTHLY REPORTS. Kurtz Bros., Dealers in School Supplies, Clearfield, Pa. Form No. 7." Printed on the cover of VACV's 1910-1911 report card is the following: "SCHOOL REPORT BOOK, Containing Reports of \_\_\_\_\_ For the School Year 191 \_\_\_\_\_ 191 \_\_\_\_\_"; this report card is Form "No. 7 Published By Roberts & Meck, Harrisburg, PA." Printed on the cover of VACV's 1911-1912 report card is the following: "SCHOOL REPORT BOOK, Containing Reports of \_\_\_\_\_ For The School Year 191 \_\_\_\_\_ 191 \_\_\_\_\_"; this report card is Form "No. 8 Published by Roberts & Meck, Harrisburg, Pa."; VACV's report card for 1914-1915 is identical to her report card for 1911-1912, except for the fact that there is not a comma after the word "Book" on the cover page of the 1914-1915 report card. The publisher's name is not given on the 1902-1903 souvenir booklet that was presented to Ensign Varcoe by Miss Grace A. Giles.
3. On January 10, 1981, Verna A. (Curtis) Varcoe showed Edith A. Gardner, Donald W. Powell, and S. Robert Powell the following books:

Harper's Educational Series Harper's First Reader In Two Parts New York Cincinnati Chicago American Book Company [Copyright] 1888 [This book was a textbook used by Ensign Varcoe at the Curtis Valley School; in it he signed his name as follows, "Ensign Varcoe."]

Fifth Year Graded Reader Alexander - Blake No. 5 No. 5 Charles E. Merrill Co New York [This is a textbook that was used at the Curtis Valley School.]

Primary Language Lessons Emma Serl American Book Company [This is a textbook that was used at the Curtis Valley School.]

The Independent Third Reader Containing A Simple, Illustrated Treatise on Elocution; Choice and Classified Readings; With Full Notes and a Complete Index by J. Madison Watson, Author of The National Readers and Spellers; The Hand-Book of Gymnastics; The Manual of Calisthenics; Phonetic Tablets, etc. A. S. Barnes & Company, New York, Chicago, & New Orleans [Copyright] 1870, 1876. [This is a textbook that was used by Fred Varcoe, an uncle of Ensign Varcoe's, while a student at the Farno School, Clinton Township, Wayne County; in it he signed his name as follows, "Fred Varcoe."]

Chit Chat For Boys and Girls With Many Illustrations Lothrop Publishing Company Boston [Copyright] 1887, 1892, 1893 [This book is inscribed as follows: "May Varcoe"; May Varcoe is the daughter of Charles Varcoe.]

Richard White, or One Eyed Dick of Massachusetts. A Tale For the Young. Second Edition. Boston: Published by James French. 1845. [This is a Varcoe family book.]

Some Adventures of Robin Hood of Great Renown in Nottinghamshire Written and Illustrated by Howard Pyle Charles Scribner's Sons New York Chicago Boston Atlanta San Francisco 1902 [This book is inscribed: "Property of Curtis Valley School Feb. 4, 1929 No. 10."]

Geography of New Zealand by J. R. MacDonald With twenty-nine Maps and sixteen Illustrations. Gordon & Gotch Proprietary, Limited. Wellington & Christchurch, N.Z. 1903 [This book is inscribed: "No. 87 Curtis Valley School Library"]

The Birds' Christmas Carol by Kate Douglas Wiggin With Illustrations Boston and New York Houghton Mifflin Company The Riverside Press Cambridge 1886-1888 [This is a book that was in the library at the Curtis Valley School when the school closed.]

In her letter of March 4, 1981 to S. Robert Powell, Verna A. (Curtis) Varcoe reports the following information about (1) books used in the Curtis Valley School, (2) the Pennsylvania grange, and (3) an old book that belonged to her grandfather, Henry Banning Curtis:

I have found several more books that were in the Curtis Valley school library, and presume I have more. I remember reading "Uncle Tom's Cabin" by Harriet Beecher Stowe. I have the "Keeper of the Bees" by Gene-Stratton-Porter. The one of most interest in past history is Halleck's American History Series - "Our Nation's Heritage" (what the old world contributed to the new) by Halleck and Frantz, copyrighted 1925, 1931 by American Book Co. (Curtis Valley School 9-5-34).

I have a small hard-cover Souvenir Book - Commemorative of the Meetings of the State Grange of Pa. and of the National Grange... held Nov. 1897 at Harrisburg, Pa. Pa. State Grange was organized 9-18-1873. Some of the advertisements are the following: Indiana Normal School of Pa. First Pa. State Normal School of Millersville, Pa., West Chester State Normal School. There are also some old pictures of churches 1725, 1740, 1780, as well as old buildings of Harrisburg. There is also quite a history of Pa. before 1897. I see The Wayne Independent has had some of this in it recently.

Yesterday I ran across an old book, I believe belonged to my grandfather Curtis. The first few pages have poems pasted in, I think by Aunt Augusta, I suppose the reason why I kept it. This book contains the "28th Annual Report of the Superintendents of Common Schools." The date mentioned 1861. It gives a description of School Houses, number in county, furniture and apparatus, schools - graded - Teachers, numbers, and professional or with certificate, etc., Moral instruction, Visitation, Institutes, Progress, Public Sentiment, Plans for next year, etc. This gives this information for each County in Pennsylvania. There is a lot of data contained in this old book. You may be able to get the information you desire elsewhere, but if you care to borrow any of these books, you are welcome to use them...

4. In her letter of March 1, 1981 to Edith A. Gardner, Louise Gladys (Curtis) McCue states the following information about education in general, and about the Curtis Valley School in particular:

[Lillian] Beatrice [(Curtis) Bartholomay] probably knows more about the country schools of Wayne County than any one alive today. She had real experience. I do think that in the early days Penna. was quite advanced in development. It was one of the original Common Wealths (there are 5 in the 48 + 2 states).